

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING BOARD**

**March 19, 2021**

The six hundred ninety fourth meeting of the Architectural Licensing Board, held on March 19, 2021, via ZOOM Webinar, was called to order by Mr. David Barkin at 9:00 AM.

**Board Members**

<b>Present:</b>	David H. Barkin	Board Member, Chairman, Architect
	Angela D. Cahill	Board Member, Architect
	Philip H. Cerrone	Board Member, Architect
	Twig Holland	Board Member, Public Member

**Board Members**

<b>Not Present:</b>	Laurann Asklof	Board Member, Public Member
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**Vacancies:**

None

**DCP Staff Present:**

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.	License & Applications Specialist
Paulette Annon	Staff Attorney
Pamela Brown	Director, Investigations Division
Janita Hamel	Supervising Special Investigator, Investigations Division

**Others Present:**

Gina Calabro	AIA Connecticut
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Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, Richard M. Hurlburt, Director.

Agency Website: [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp)

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**1. Review of minutes of the January 15, 2021 Architectural Licensing Board Meeting**

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the January 15, 2021 minutes as written. (Cerrone/Cahill)

## **2. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today**

There were no comments or concerns addressed.

## **3. DCP Investigation Division Complaint Status Report**

Mr. Barkin noted the Board has before them two reports: one covering the time period from 01-01 2017 to 02-28-2021 and another from 01-01-2021 to 02-28-2021. Ms. Hamel explained that she used the starting date from 2017 in response to the Board's previous request to see both past and current complaints under investigation. Mr. Barkin noted reports shown that have been referred to the Legal Department. Ms. Brown gave the Board some further detail on the handling of the complaints with the Legal Department.

Ms. Cahill complimented the Department on the overall reduced number of complaints received. She also inquired about the misuse of title noted on a particular complaint and asked the Board, in general, about the use of the term "architectural services". Mr. Barkin stated that he would refer this question to the Board's Legal Counsel for interpretation.

Ms. Calabro asked about closed complaints and if they are made available to the public on any accessible domain to see the outcome of the complaints. Ms. Brown noted that the complaints are not posted online but are available to the public by written request under the Freedom of Information Act. She stated that her Division addresses many of these requests by telephone and are settled on the spot.

Ms. Annon stated to the Board that Settlement Agreements are not posted but are made available to the Public by written request. Only Hearings are posted on the Department's website. She also addressed Ms. Cahill's earlier question regarding use of the term architectural services. Ms. Annon noted that context is always a major factor when discussing this subject. Ms. Cahill and Ms. Annon further discussed a particular complaint listed on the Board Report in more detail. Ms. Calabro asked about obtaining copies of Settlement Agreements for AIA/CT records. Ms. Annon stated that they are made available under Freedom of Information by written request.

Concerning the current Complaint Request, Mr. Barkin there are no open complaints and that the only activity since the Board's January 2021 Meeting is shown as a closed complaint. Ms. Hamel cited the particulars on how the mechanics of how the reports are generated. Mr. Barkin asked Ms. Annon to explain further regarding Items Nos. 3 through 8 shown as open complaints on the Board Report. Ms. Annon cited the general nature of the subject of the complaints and her procedures in determining the order and methodology of their investigations. Mr. Barkin, on behalf of the Board, thanked Ms. Hamel and Ms. Brown for their participation in today's meeting.

Mr. Barkin cautioned the Board about their public participation in complaints and investigations since they may be called upon in the future to adjudicate the same. He

noted in the future it would be better if communication came through an alternative source.

#### **4. DCP Legal Division Items**

Discussion on this Agenda Item is included under Agenda Item 3.

#### **5. Old Business**

##### **5A. Update of proposed changes to Connecticut Statutes Chapter 390 – Architects.**

Continuation of discussion concerning licensed architects in Connecticut performing the work of Interior Designers; specifically, the logistics to be addressed by the Department relating to existing interior design certificates currently held by Connecticut licensed architects. It was confirmed at a previous Board meeting that this proposal is a statutory change.

Ms. Annon stated that she has no updates for the Board in this matter and referred this Item to Ms. Leslie O'Brien, the Department's Communications and Legislative Program Manager, for more information. Mr. Barkin asked Mr. Kuzmich to contact the appropriate Department personnel to update the Board on the status of this matter by e-mail before their next meeting.

##### **5B. Minority Designation as considered by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) relative to firms practicing architecture.**

Mr. Barkin stated that this item will be continued to their next meeting Agenda since there is both discussion and correspondence that needs to take place prior on Mr. Barkin' part which has not happened yet.

##### **5C. Application of Ms. Shubashree Balakumar to sit for the Architectural Registration Examination per Sec. 20-289-3a.(2) of the Regulations for Architect Licensure.** Update from Ms. Angela Cahill regarding her review of this application.

A motion was made by Mr. Barkin to approve the application followed by a second on the motion from Mr. Cerrone. The Board now began their discussion on this item.

The Board complimented Ms. Cahill on the very comprehensive report she prepared. She noted that the area where this candidate is deficient is the education requirement relative to the NCARB's Standard. After an evaluation of her education done through the NCARB, they concluded that the candidate is deficient in General Education by 37.5 credits. General education is defined as the humanities, English composition, natural science, and social science. The comparison also concluded the candidate's degree was deficient by 6 credits in professional practice, specifically laws & regulations, and ethics & professional conduct. NCARB will not accept the candidate for Certificate until the education requirement is complete. Furthermore, the candidate

will need pre-approval from NAAB before enrolling in any course or examination to satisfy the deficiencies. Ms. Cahill then pursued an evaluation of the educational comparison regarding the differences in architectural education in the United States vs. India.

After speaking with the candidate's employer and colleagues regarding her ability to communicate with clients, they believe that Ms. Balakumar would not benefit from the additional courses as noted in her education evaluation and that the candidate's communication skills are exceptional. Ms. Cahill also noted that in speaking with Ms. Balakumar, she was very eloquent and communicated effectively stating that this is the main concern being questioned.

Ms. Cahill cited the candidate's personal background and sacrifice in not getting accredited by the NCARB. She also noted Ms. Balakumar's desire to get licensed in Connecticut is probably all she will really want in her career going forward. Mr. Cerrone stated that he has no exceptions at all to the candidate being allowed to sit for the examination and fully agrees with Mr. Barkin on their motions to approve the candidate to do so.

Ms. Holland noted that the candidate also lacks educational credits in ethics which is also very important in addition to communication. She asked Ms. Cahill what response she received from Professors here when asked about the importance of humanities courses. In response, Ms. Cahill stated that this individual she spoke with was not in agreement with the professional education evaluation's conclusions relative to this candidate. It was confirmed that the educational evaluation was relative to an NAAB accredited 5-year Bachelor of Architecture degree. Ms. Cahill believes that the deficiency in ethics course work will be satisfied through the candidate's preparation in studying for the examination. Mr. Barkin stated although he believes that ethics are tested by the examination, also very important is the candidate's ability to protect public health, safety, and welfare which is what the Board regulates and what the examination tests for.

Ms. Holland questioned if the coursework the candidate lacks is available locally through community colleges and the like. Ms. Cahill stated the courses required by the NCARB must first be approved by them making the process very unreasonable and was one reason that prompted Ms. Balakumar to focus on getting her license only in Connecticut. Further, Ms. Cahill does not want herself to be in a position to have to evaluate any classes she takes in lieu of NCARB doing so.

Ms. Annon cautioned the Board relative to how they evaluate a candidate's background, in general, in terms of adding additional requirements based upon a candidate's educational background and where the education was obtained. All candidates must be evaluated equally, and she believes in this case, the Board's evaluation is appropriate and without issue. Ms. Holland stated that she will continue to agree with NCARB's requirement for the additional coursework. Mr. Barkin noted that the coursework requirement is from the NAAB and not NCARB, Further, he stated the Board does not work for NCARB and is exercising their right, as defined in the law, to provide an alternate path to licensure that this candidate is following.

After extensive discussion, the Board voted in favor of approving Ms. Balakumar to sit for the Architect Registration Examination. Motions are as follows: Mr. Barkin and Mr. Cerrone voted in favor; Ms. Holland voted in opposition. Ms. Cahill abstained from the vote although noted her support for the candidate.

Mr. Kuzmich will notify the NCARB of the Board's decision.

**6. New Business**

6A. The following candidates have passed the Architect Registration Examination and are recommended by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as Architects in the State of Connecticut; the Board voted unanimously to approve the following individuals for licensing as an architect in the State of Connecticut and offered their congratulations on achieving this professional milestone. (Cahill/Cerrone)

1. Andrea E. Olson
2. Winna Japardi
3. Cole D. Peterson
4. Michael Semenov

6B. Applications for licensing by waiver of examination; the following individuals were approved under Section 21a-8 of the General Statutes by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as architects in the State of Connecticut on the basis of waiver of examination with an NCARB Certificate Record or by Direct Endorsement; the Board acknowledged the applications listed below. It was noted by the Board that the applications are listed for informational purposes.

1	Boyle, Patricia A.	Waiver of Examination; Michigan	(NCARB File No. 72784)
2	Brand, Jeffrey A.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 822606)
3	Broberg, Erica	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 95025)
4	Buck, Brent A.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 137594)
5	Bumb, Jeffrey C.	Waiver of Examination; Texas	(NCARB File No. 129876)
6	Burkhart, Erich A	Waiver of Examination; California	(NCARB File No. 850949)
7	Cline, Raleigh J.	Waiver of Examination; Ohio	(NCARB File No. 71767)
8	Cook, Peter D.	Waiver of Examination; Maryland	(NCARB File No. 77611)
9	Delle Donne, David F.	Waiver of Examination; New Jersey	Direct
10	Esteban, Francisco J.	Waiver of Examination; Missouri	(NCARB File No. 823395)
11	Fagan, Christopher H.	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	(NCARB File No. 678583)
12	Fleshman, Stephen	Waiver of Examination; Vermont	Direct
13	Fligman, Samuel Z.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 556393)
14	Gleysteen, Jan	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 54010)
15	Hill, Leo S.	Waiver of Examination; New Jersey	(NCARB File No. 101142)
16	Hrdlicka, David	Waiver of Examination; Vermont	(NCARB File No. 53773)
17	Jankowiak, Adrianna	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 619464)

18	Jockel, Emily	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 284473)
19	Kurz, Pamela L.	Waiver of Examination; California	(NCARB File No. 842016)
20	Leung, Ming	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 860736)
21	Lieberg, Randall A.	Waiver of Examination; North Dakota	(NCARB File No. 77269)
22	Lopatynsky, Alexandra L.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 54438)
23	MacKnight, Steven N.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 70862)
24	Moorhead, John G.	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	(NCARB File No. 86582)
25	Morrison, Stephanie	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 110079)
26	Ostermier, Christina	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 691882)
27	Pierce, Taylor James	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 114983)
28	Pohlschroeder, Lisa M.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 137351)
29	Powell, Joseph H.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	(NCARB File No. 57718)
30	Restivo, Danielle K. M.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 612488)
31	Reynolds, Jay M.	Waiver of Examination; California	(NCARB File No. 68015)
32	Ricciuti, Anthony	Waiver of Examination; Michigan	(NCARB File No. 80769)
33	Rodriguez, Cesar A.	Waiver of Examination; South Carolina	(NCARB File No. 68484)
34	Roy, David	Waiver of Examination; Vermont	(NCARB File No. 63304)
35	Salib, Hany Y.	Waiver of Examination; New Jersey	(NCARB File No. 127662)
36	Schwartz, Evan H.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 861783)
37	Serfling, Andrew L.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 621229)
38	Smith, Peter E.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 52459)
39	Steiner, Gary D.	Waiver of Examination; Maryland	(NCARB File No. 116806)
40	Stewart, Richard W.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	(NCARB File No. 116952)
41	Tai, Alice	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 281393)
42	Terebelo, Daniel	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 103537)
43	Tresko, Jarek	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 840892)
44	Walsh, Mark R.	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	(NCARB File No. 70142)
45	Wells, Beth	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
46	Willett, Shawn Andrew	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 745682)
47	Winslow, John A.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	Direct
48	Wright, J. Steven	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
49	Yue, Victor K. L.	Waiver of Examination; Florida	(NCARB File No. 47087)

6C. Applications for the Corporate Practice of Architecture; the Department approved the following applications under Section 21a-8 of the General Statutes; the Board acknowledged the applications listed below. It was noted by the Board that the applications are listed for informational purposes.

1. Jason T Anderson Architect P C  
25 Wallkill Avenue  
Montgomery, New York 12549-1117

Jason T. Anderson  
Connecticut Lic. No. 14721
2. Black & Veatch Architects PLLC  
8400 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-2031

Philip Rishel  
Connecticut Lic. No. 14422
3. Wiemann-Lamphere Architects, Inc.  
525 Hercules Drive Suite 2  
Colchester, Vermont 05446-8112

David Roy  
Connecticut Lic. No. 14838

Mr. Barkin made stated to the Board that practitioners not practicing as a sole proprietor and practicing as an LLC, as an example, are required to be licensed for the Corporate Practice of Architecture by the Board and through the Department. He has cited personal examples of individuals who were confused about what the Statutes mandate, in particular, about the requirement for LLC's to be licensed. He asked the Board Members to remind their fellow practitioners about this requirement.

Ms. Annon asked Mr. Barkin, in terms of enforcement, if he wants the Department to act on these types of cases or just advise these entities of this requirement. Mr. Barkin does not see the need for enforcement, generally, and believes these situations come from confusion on the part of the practitioner and a lack of understanding on what the statutes say. He cited the specifics of the statutes and believes that these situations are not due to a lack of ethics but instead a genuine lack of understanding.

Ms. Cahill agrees with Mr. Barkin and cited further explanation and examples of the lack of understanding on what is required both in our State and neighboring States as well. Ms. Annon also cited some examples of these situations. Mr. Barkin also noted the need for further explanation to the professional community on the use of both individual and corporate seals for the practice of architecture.

Mr. Barkin asked Ms. Annon on what type of advisement the Board/Department can issue and discussed potential ways of communicating this information.

## **7. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today.**

1. Ms. Calabro asked the Board for guidance regarding requests the AIA/CT has been receiving from Connecticut architects who received their license by reciprocity and want a Wall Certificate. She explained the AIA/CT's wall certificate policy relative to newly licensed Connecticut architects who recently received their initial license by passing the written examination.

After some discussion by the Board, it was determined that wall certificates will be issued to the newly/initially licensed Connecticut candidates only. It was noted that the wall certificate process is burdensome to the Board, the Department, and AIA/CT as well and would become unreasonable based upon the number of licenses issued by reciprocity. Ms. Calabro asked that this policy be communicated to the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.  
Board Administrator

Upcoming Architectural Licensing Board Meeting Dates for the Calendar Year 2021:

1. May 21, 2021
2. July 16, 2021
3. September 17, 2021
4. November 19, 2021

All meetings will take place at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.